

from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) and the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. JOHNSON).

The result was announced—yeas 63, nays 28, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 381 Ex.]

#### YEAS—63

Baldwin	Grassley	Peters
Bennet	Hassan	Portman
Blackburn	Heinrich	Reed
Blumenthal	Hirono	Romney
Blunt	Hyde-Smith	Rosen
Booker	Kelly	Rounds
Brown	Kennedy	Sasse
Burr	King	Schumer
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Capito	Leahy	Sinema
Cardin	Lujan	Smith
Carper	Manchin	Stabenow
Casey	Markey	Tester
Collins	McConnell	Tillis
Coons	Menendez	Toomey
Cornyn	Merkley	Van Hollen
Cortez Masto	Murkowski	Warren
Durbin	Murphy	Whitehouse
Feinstein	Murray	Wicker
Gillibrand	Ossoff	Wyden
Graham	Padilla	Young

#### NAYS—28

Barrasso	Hagerty	Risch
Boozman	Hawley	Rubio
Braun	Hoeben	Scott (FL)
Cassidy	Inhofe	Scott (SC)
Cotton	Lankford	Shelby
Cramer	Lee	Sullivan
Crapo	Lummis	Thune
Daines	Marshall	Tuberville
Ernst	Moran	
Fischer	Paul	

#### NOT VOTING—9

Cruz	Johnson	Schatz
Duckworth	Kaine	Warner
Hickenlooper	Sanders	Wernick

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

#### RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess until 4:30 p.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 2:58 p.m., recessed until 4:30 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Ms. BALDWIN).

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The senior Senator from Texas.

#### BORDER SECURITY

Mr. CORNYN. Madam President, yesterday, President Biden traveled to Phoenix, AZ, to visit the site of a new semiconductor manufacturing plant.

I am a proud proponent of domestic semiconductor manufacturing because it has become a matter of economic and national security, and it enjoys broad bipartisan support here in the Senate through the CHIPS and Science Act.

It is exciting to see the sort of announcements that we were seeing in Arizona and these new chipmaking investments on American soil. But it is hardly the most pressing or most urgent matter on the minds of Arizonans or Texans or any other border State

communities as well as folks across the country.

It is only about 150 miles from Phoenix to the United States-Mexico border, which has been willfully neglected by the Biden administration.

Under President Biden's administration, we have broken one record after another when it comes to illegal immigration at the southern border, and the system is now near its breaking point with the expiration of title 42, which is the public health title which has given the Border Patrol the authority to repel people coming across the border—some of them, at least—using that tool. But when that goes away, Border Patrol, absent any change in administration policy, will not be able to return those individuals—mainly adult males—back across the border for illegally entering the United States.

So despite the President getting on Air Force One at Andrews Air Force Base, flying to Phoenix, AZ, a border State, the President's trip did not include a short trip and visit to the border. After all, the President has pretty good transportation. He has got Air Force One. Can you imagine? It would just take a quick hop to the border to give the President the opportunity to learn because he has not visited the border once since he took office.

He could have done what I have done and what other Members of the Senate have done when we visited the border. He could have asked the Border Patrol agents to share their challenges, ask what he could do to help.

He could have asked what can the Federal Government do to make your job easier in order to address this crisis.

He could have talked to Customs and Border Protection Office of Field Operation officers about their efforts to interdict the drugs that took the life of 108,000 Americans last year alone, virtually all of which comes across the southern border.

He could have just simply said thank you, thank you for your service to the countless men and women who are on the frontlines of this crisis each and every day.

Unfortunately, President Biden couldn't be bothered to make that trip.

As he was leaving Washington yesterday, a reporter asked the President why he would visit Arizona, a border State, and not go to the border.

The President responded:

Because there are more important things going on.

Talk about a slap in the face to every single person who is troubled by what is happening at the southern border.

Every day, migrants are being exploited by people who care nothing about their welfare but view them simply as a commodity to make money. The stories of the abuse of migrants who take the long and dangerous trip from their home across the southern border are legion. The President could have learned more about that and expressed concern and say: You know,

what can we do to discourage people from making that long and dangerous trip into the United States and being subjected to sexual assault and other forms of abuse?

He could have asked about the fentanyl, the synthetic opioids, and other dangerous drugs that are coming into our country and killing innocent people in our communities. We have had a number of teenage children, schoolchildren, killed when they consumed a pill that they thought was maybe a prescription drug like Xanax or Percocet, which was contaminated with fentanyl. It just takes a pencil lead portion of fentanyl to kill you. Unfortunately, that has been happening because of the border crisis and the drugs flowing across the southern border.

The cartels and criminal organizations are getting rich off the trail of death and destruction that they have created. But let it be known: President Joe Biden thinks there are more important things to do.

That is more outrageous than disappointing, but it is really both. It is outrageous and disappointing to hear the President of the United States admit this outright. But as dangerous, outrageous, and disappointing as it is to hear him say it, we really shouldn't be surprised by his inaction when it comes to addressing this crisis.

For nearly 2 years, President Biden and his administration have ignored the crisis at the border so he refuses to visit. You know, he might just learn something. He might find out that this is not about root causes, which is what Secretary Blinken and others, Vice President HARRIS, have said. They think illegal immigration is a result of root causes.

Well, there is a component of that—people experiencing violence or poverty in their home country who want to come to the United States—but it is also about drug smugglers. It is also about criminals who have been deported for endangering Americans, and yet they come back across the border to do it again and again.

So the President might have actually learned something if he had just taken a few minutes to talk to the people who work and live on the border.

So he refuses to visit; he avoids talking about it; he acts like there is nothing wrong when, in fact, we are experiencing an unprecedented humanitarian and security crisis.

Since President Biden took office, U.S. Customs and Border Protection has encountered more than 4 million—4 million—migrants at the southern border. During the full 8 years of the Obama administration, Customs and Border Protection didn't see that many migrants. In 2 years, we have seen more than they saw in 8 years during the Obama administration.

President Biden's policies have not only tolerated this situation, it has actually made it worse and encouraged more migrants to make the trip to our